

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image processing method comprising:  
establishing an inseparable relation between an ornament and arrangement information of the ornament in a body part area;  
setting a location of the body part area in an input image;  
setting an arrangement of the ornament so as to fit with the set location of the body part area using the arrangement information related to the ornament;  
composing the ornament and the input image to generate an ornament-arranged output image,  
and  
outputting the ornament-arranged output image.
2. An image processing method as defined in claim 1, further comprising:  
setting a size of the body part area in the input image; and  
fitting the ornament to the input image in size, based on the set size of the body part area.
3. An image processing method as defined in claim 1, wherein the ornament is treated in a form of an image file and the arrangement information of the ornament in the body part area is included in attribute information of the image file.
4. An image processing method as defined in claim 3, wherein the attribute information is placed in an extended region of the image file.
5. An image processing method as defined in claim 1, wherein the ornament is treated in a form of an image file and the arrangement information of the ornament in the body part area is included in a name of the image file.
6. An image processing method as defined in claim 1, wherein the ornament is treated in a form of an image file and the arrangement information of the ornament in the body part area is included in another file inseparably related to the image file.

7. An image processing method as defined in claim 1, wherein the arrangement information of the ornament in the body part area includes information of an ornament reference point.

8. An image processing method as defined in claim 2, wherein the arrangement information of the ornament in the body part area includes scaling information defining a relation between the size of the body part area and a size of the ornament.

9. An image processing method as defined in claim 1, wherein the body part area is a face area of a person photographic object.

10. An image processing method as defined in claim 7, wherein the ornament reference point is one of an upper left corner point, an upper side middle point, an upper right corner point, a left side middle point, a central point, a center of gravity, a right side middle point, a lower left corner point, a lower side middle point, and a lower right corner point.

11. An image processing method as defined in claim 1, wherein the ornament is at least one of an image expressing personal feelings and an image expressing personal belongings.

12. An image processing method comprising:  
storing a frame image having a frame to compose a body part area;  
setting a location of and a size of the body part area in an input image; and  
outputting a composite image obtained by composing an image of the body part area and the frame of the frame image.

13. An image processing method as defined in claim 12, further comprising fitting the location and the size-set image of the body part area to the frame in size.

14. An image processing method as defined in claim 12, wherein the frame image is treated in a form of an image file and arrangement information of the frame in the frame image is included in attribute information of the image file.

15. An image processing method as defined in claim 14, wherein the attribute information is placed in an extended region of the image file.

16. An image processing method as defined in claim 12, wherein the frame image is treated in a form of an image file and arrangement information of the frame in the frame image is included in a file name of the image file.

17. An image processing method as defined in claim 12, wherein the frame image is treated in a form of an image file and arrangement information of the frame is included in another file inseparably related to the image file.

18. An image processing method as defined in claim 12, wherein arrangement information of the frame in the frame image includes information of a frame reference point.

19. An image processing method as defined in claim 13, wherein arrangement information of the frame in the frame image includes magnification information defining a relation between the size of the body part area and a size of the frame.

20. An image processing method as defined in claim 12, wherein the body part area is a face area of a person photographic object.

21. An image processing method as defined in claim 18, wherein the frame reference point is one of an upper left corner point, an upper side middle point, an upper right corner point, a left side middle point, a central point, a center of gravity, a right side middle point, a lower left corner point, a lower side middle point, and a lower right corner point.

22. An image processing method as defined in claim 12, wherein the frame image is at least one of an image expressing personal feelings and an image expressing personal belongings.

23. An image processing apparatus comprising:

an image storing unit operable to store an input image;

a template storing unit operable to store at least one template of a body part area;

a detecting unit operable to detect a location of and a size of the body part area out of the input image stored in said image storing unit, said detecting unit using the at least one template of the body part area stored in said template storing unit;

an ornament information storing unit operable to store ornament information of an ornament having a reference point; and

an image composition unit operable to scale the ornament in accordance with the size of the body part area detected by said detecting unit, said image composition unit operable to locate a reference point of the scaled ornament so as to fit with a position of the body part area detected by said detecting unit, and said image composition unit further operable to compose the scaled ornament and the input image stored in said image storing unit.

24. An image processing apparatus as defined in claim 23, wherein the body part area is a face area of a person photographic object.

25. An image processing apparatus as defined in claim 23, wherein the ornament reference point is one of an upper left corner point, an upper side middle point, an upper right corner point, a left side middle point, a central point, a center of gravity, a right side middle point, a lower left corner point, a lower side middle point, and a lower right corner point.

26. An image processing apparatus as defined in claim 23, wherein the ornament is at least one of an image expressing personal feelings and an image expressing personal belongings.

27. An image processing apparatus comprising:

an image storing unit operable to store an input image;

a template storing unit operable to store at least one template of a face part area;

a detecting unit operable to detect a location of and a size of a face part out of the input image stored in said image storing unit, said detecting unit using the at least one template of the face part area stored in said template storing unit;

a frame image storing unit operable to store a frame image having a frame into which an image of the face part is to be inserted, and

an image composition unit operable to scale the image of the face part detected by said detecting unit in accordance with a size of the frame, and said image composition unit further operable to output a composite image after inserting the image of the face part detected by said detecting unit into the frame of the frame image.